



March 5, 2013

The Honorable Joe Hune, Chair
Senate Insurance Committee
Michigan Senate
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Senator Hune:

Thank you for your support of the universal prior authorization legislation and for bringing this issue up before the Senate Insurance Committee in such a timely manner. Michigan families deserve the absolute best possible health care, but unnecessary red tape and bureaucracy often stand in the way.

On behalf of the physician members of our organizations, we support Senate Bills 178 and 179 which will cut red tape and improve efficiencies in the delivery of health care by creating a single, two-page universal prior authorization form. These bills empower physicians and their staffs to focus on patient care and improving their patients' health, instead of dealing with mountains of redundant paperwork.

Redundant prior authorization forms create a significant administrative and bureaucratic burden that delays the quality of patient care and limits the amount of time physicians and their staffs can spend directly with patients, addressing their health needs.

With more than 150 different insurance companies and health plans operating in Michigan, each use their own unique forms requesting nearly identical information. Our Michigan physicians are forced to sort through more than 1,000 pages of prior authorization forms.

Our organization joins the voices of many providers and patients who support approving efficiencies

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in patient care. It is our belief that Senate Bills 178 and 179 which call for a universal prior authorization form and methodologies achieve this goal and deserve support. We urge your favorable consideration of Senate Bills 178 and 179. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward J. Canfield, D.O.", written in a cursive style.

Edward J. Canfield
President, Michigan Osteopathic Association

cc: Michigan Senate Insurance Committee